providing air connectivity to Jabalpur by operating a DO 228 service. Indian Airlines had a fleet of 3 DO228 aircraft. However, this service was withdrawn *w.e.f.* 23.9.2002 as one of the DO228 aircraft met with an accident.

(c) Air Deccan has plans to operate a daily flight on the sector Delhi-Bhopal-Jabalpur and return in their Summer Schedule, 2005.

Besides, Indian Airlines/Airline Allied Services Limited have plan to take 6 ATR aircraft on dry lease basis. One of the services proposed to be operated by these aircraft on the sector Delhi-Gwalior-Jabalpur-Delhi.

Airport at Ajmer

†2163. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Ajmer being the city of world famous shrine of Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti and the Trithraj Pushkar Ajmer is a famous tourist place and a need for an airport is being felt here for a long time;

(b) whether a proposal from the State Government of Rajasthan demanding an airport at Ajmer is under consideration of Central Government for long;

(c) whether Government have any scheme to build an airport at Ajmer; and

(d) if so, by when and at where this construction work will be started in Ajmer togetherwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Ajmer is at a distance of 136 Kms. from Jaipur and 150 Kms. from Jodhpur. With the widening of National Highway from Delhi to Ajmer *via* Jaipur and also the introduction of daily Shatabdi Express from Delhi to Ajmer, it is felt that the movement of tourists by road and rail has become easier and cost effective. Hence, no sufficient justification is found for a new airport at Ajmer.

(b) Yes, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) No, Sir. Government has no plan, at present, to construct an airport in Ajmer.

(d) Does not arise.

Acquisition of land for Trivandrum International Airport

2164. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land acquisition for the first phase of Trivandrum International Airport terminal has been completed and if so, the extent of land acquired for the above purpose and whether Airports Authority of India has taken possession of the acquired land;

(b) what is the progress of the land acquisition process for the second phase; and

(c) the extent of land proposed to be acquired for the second phase and the time likely by which the process will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. 27 acres of land in the first phase had been acquired by the State Government of Kerala. Airports Authority of India is in the process of taking over the possession of the land.

(b) and (c) For the additional land required for the long term development of the airport, the State Government has already issued the requisite Land Acquisition Notification on 30th June 2004 for 93 acres. Airports Authority of India have been asked to confirm that the 93 acres is well within the survey numbers indicated in the Land Acquisition Notification. The State Government has intimated that the acquisition of additional land is under way at a fast pace under a new Fast Track Mechanism. Exact time to be taken in the above process cannot be indicated at this stage.

Fixation of price of ATF

†2165. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.